Gjúki

(5th Century)

BRIEFING

Gjúki (also *Gebicca*, *Gifica*, *Gibica*, *Gebicar*, *Gibicho* or *Gippich*) was a figure of Germanic heroic legend.

ATTESTATIONS

The historical **Gibica** is the first in a list of old Kings of Burgundy, along with Gundomar, Gislaharius, and Gundaharius, in the Lex Burgundionum (516 AD). While Gundaharius is attested in Roman sources, no other information about Gibica or Gundomar and Gislaharius is known and the *Lex* does not indicate how the kings are related. In later legend, Gibica becomes the father of the three subsequent kings.

He is mentioned in Widsith as *Gifica* and as *Gjúki* in the eddic poem *Atlakviða*, where he was the father of Gunnar (see Gunther). While the name Gibech is replaced with Dancrat in the Nibelungenlied, other German sources such as the Rosengarten zu Worms use this name for the father of the Burgundian kings.

In the *Prose Edda,* Snorri Sturluson says that Gjúki was the father of sons Gunnar and Hogni and a daughter Gudrun. Gotthorm (slayer of Sigurd) is his stepson from his wife Grimhild's previous marriage.

The *Prose Edda* mentions Gudny, a second daughter of Gjúki and Grimhild. In the Gudrunarkvida, this second daughter is named Gullrond.